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SUCCESSORS TO F. E. GAGE & CO.

GOES ROLLING ON.

Ten Thousand People Have Already Crossed the Arkansas River and Still the Rush Continues.

Strict Watch to be Kept by Special Agents to Keep Whiskey Out of the New Territory.

Gen. Merritt Reports Everything Quiet at the Front with Sufficient Force to Handle the Boomers.

ARKANSAS CITY, April 20.—It is estimated by ranchmen that from 500 to 1,000 boomers will have made illicit entrance into Oklahoma before noon of the 22d. These boomers generally strike west of the Reno trail, ford the Cimarron, and enter the western portion of the territory. Interest now centers at Guthrie, though by Tuesday there will be 10,000 people in and about Guthrie. The material for 500 houses has been shipped from one Chicago firm alone. The telegraph company is preparing for a tremendous day's business Monday. It is estimated there will be 100,000 words of special dispatches from Oklahoma the day of the opening.

A monster meeting was held here to-day and a memorial addressed to the president and secretary of the interior, setting forth that the reservation of 320 acres for townsite for Guthrie was totally inadequate and petitioning that the secretary may permit the entry of four contiguous sites of 320 acres each.

Plans of the Cowboy. WICHITA, April 20.—There are cowboys now lying along the river bank, who will make a grand rush, and having fleet horses and knowing the country well will soon reach very desirable claims. They will sell their rights for what they can make and then move on another.

The raid yesterday afternoon, mention of which has already been made, resulted in finding not as many boomers as was at first reported. There were many, no doubt, in Oklahoma but so well concealed that few, comparatively speaking, were routed out. Deputy Lundy found in a ravine a man lying beneath some logs. The only thing he had to sustain life was a long linen flour sack partly filled with crackers. These it was his intention and hope to subsist until the 22nd.

The interest here is intense, yet there is little publicity to the many schemes being concocted on all sides. The subject as to which will have the first right, he who acquires first, or he who files first, is most freely discussed by the majority of the boomers. A ride to day over the Chickasaw country showed boomers' tents and wagons at every available camping spot. Their numbers are placed at 7,000.

They Must Go Dry.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., April 19.—Collector of Internal Revenue Acres to-day received a telegram from Commissioner of Internal Revenue Mason saying arrangements had been made to give the collector a sufficient force for any work necessary to prevent the sale of liquors in Oklahoma and instructing him to issue no special tax stamps for that district and saying the government will not permit the sale of liquors there.

Collector Acres has accordingly started eleven deputy collectors to Guthrie. The intention is to have them on the ground in advance of the boomers and arrange to prevent the sale of liquors.

ARKANSAS CITY, April 19.—Marshal Jones, of Kansas, and Needles, of the Indian territory, who are in authority over the Indian territory and Oklahoma, announce they have instructed the deputies to confiscate all liquors brought into the territory. These instructions are based on the ruling of the attorney general that Oklahoma is within the limits of the Indian territory, and the laws pertaining to the sale of intoxicating liquors within the territory apply to this section. As it is impossible to get liquor to Oklahoma without passing through the territory, and as the laws against bringing liquor to any part of the territory are very strict, those thinking of going into the territory will save themselves much expense and trouble by abandoning their purpose. There are eight companies of infantry and four of cavalry in the territory to assist in enforcing the laws.

Merritt Reports All Quiet.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—A telegram has been received at the war department dated Chicago, from Gen. Merritt, saying the following telegram dated yesterday at Oklahoma station, is respectfully forwarded: "Have just arrived at this station; found everything quiet and am making such dispositions as will maintain peace on and after the 22d. The means of communication on the railroad wire are inadequate, even for the railroad. Communications, in order to certify reach me, should be wired through Woodland to Fort Reno, with which post I am making arrangements to establish a line of carriers. Will telegraph later as I receive information." W. MERRITT, Brig. Gen.

Geo. Crook, Maj. Gen. Commanding.

Rising Waters.

ARKANSAS CITY, April 20.—The Arkansas and Walnut rivers are rising rapidly. The Walnut has gone up ten feet since this morning. Congressman Weaver, of Iowa, will arrive to-night. He says he will take up a claim near Guthrie. This morning at Chillico station 500 Texas cattle were let loose on the prairie, a train of boomers passing at the time. The cattle stampeded the cattle hatched to the wagons, and the latter were mixed with the Texas cattle and lost to the owners. A man named Watson, from Sterling, Neb., in trying to preserve his outfit from the enraged cattle, was trampled under foot and badly injured.

Sugar Climbing Up.

GLASGOW, April 20.—The Clyde sugar market is strong. Prices have risen 3d. today and sugar is 2s. dearer than Saturday last, although the market is less firm than early in the week. Medium quality is mostly wanted, and is rapidly bought. It is believed the top of the rise has not been reached. The advance is due to the prospect of a scarcity in the crop.

THE MAJOR BUDD CASE.

Judge De Wolfe Decides He Has No Jurisdiction in the Matter.

BUTTE, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—The Major Budd mining case came up for a hearing this afternoon before the district court in chambers. It will be remembered that this property was to have been sold under execution April 2, Schwab and Zimmerman being the judgment creditors to the extent of \$32,000. The case was heard to-day and C. W. Turner appeared for Schwab and Zimmerman and W. F. Sanders and William Scanlon for B. J. Fine and other stockholders of the Budd. After some two or three hours of preliminary skirmishing, in which there was considerable discussion as to the correctness of the accounting, Mr. Turner finally raised the point of jurisdiction. He argued that the judgment having been confessed in the first district the case would properly come up for trial in the first district. After considering the question for some hours Judge De Wolfe decided this point well taken, and the Major Budd case will be heard now in the next term of this district court on its merits. The mine is idle, and will remain in statu quo until the case has been settled.

POSTMASTER PEARSON DEAD.

A Veteran in the Postal Service Passes Away—Sketch of His Life.

NEW YORK, April 20.—Ex-Postmaster Henry G. Pearson died this morning. James brought the news of Pearson's death to the postoffice this morning and then entered upon the duties of his son-in-law pursuant to the action recently taken by Pearson's bondsmen delegating the powers of the office to him. He sent a telegram to Postmaster-General Wamamaker apprising him of Pearson's death from hemorrhage, caused by cancer of the stomach. Pearson had been in a comatose condition since 11 o'clock yesterday morning. He was 45 years of age and leaves a widow, but no children.

Henry G. Pearson was born in New York city in July, 1842, and was educated in the public schools. In October, 1860, he was a stamper and distributor in the New York postoffice. In the summer of 1863 he was discharged for the reason that he was not a political worker, but he was soon reappointed on account of his knowledge of route distribution. He was appointed assistant clerk in the railway mail line between New York and Washington in 1864, becoming a clerk on the same in 1865, and head clerk on the line in 1871. A little later he was appointed chief clerk, and from 1872 to the end of 1876 he was also a special agent of the postoffice department. In February, 1878, he was made superintendent of mails in the New York office, and in November of that year became assistant postmaster. Mr. Pearson held the latter position until Jan. 4, 1882, when he was appointed postmaster, succeeding his father-in-law, Thomas L. James, who had then been postmaster general. Among the unpaid positions held by Mr. Pearson were those of local agent for New York for the inspection of mail equipment and chairman of the civil service board in the postoffice from May, 1873, to March, 1881. His administration of the postoffice was so satisfactory that his reappointment by President Cleveland was urged by leading citizens without distinction of party. He held the office until a fortnight ago, when President Harrison appointed Senator Van Cott to succeed him.

Death of an Eminent Oculist.

DENVER, April 20.—Dr. W. T. Wilson, considered one of the most talented oculists in the country, and certainly without a peer in the Rocky mountain regions, died late last night from an overdose of morphine. Dr. Wilson had been suffering for some time from insomnia and took the drug to secure sleep, and evidently miscalculated the amount. Several eminent physicians were summoned when his condition was discovered and worked with him for three hours without avail. He was only 29 years of age a pupil of Dr. Knapp, of New York. His income in this city was estimated at \$30,000 annually. He leaves a widow here and a mother in Iowa.

The San Francisco Building Site.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—First Comptroller Durham has made a decision of considerable interest to citizens of San Francisco. The act of congress of March 3, 1887, directs the appointment of three commissioners to select and purchase a site for a public building at San Francisco at a cost not to exceed \$350,000. The same act appropriated the amount necessary to carry out its provisions. It subsequently appearing a suitable property could not be obtained within the limit fixed by congress, that body Jan. 21 last passed an act increasing the limit in cost to \$800,000. The first comptroller has decided this latter act inoperative, as no appropriation was made to carry it into effect. He also decides while the commission can continue the investigation under the appropriation of March 23, 1887, it cannot enter into any contract involving the government for the future payment of money in excess of the appropriation of \$350,000.

A Runaway Train.

DULUTH, April 20.—As a train of loaded cars, with Supt. Pope's private car attached, was ascending a heavy grade between Two Harbors and Kakadina, on the Duluth & Iron Range railroad, the air brakes refused to work and the train gained a frightful velocity. The brakeman managed to uncouple the private car, which was soon stopped by the hand brakes. The rest of the train plunged madly on, reaching a speed of 110 miles an hour. It finally left the track, demolishing the engine and all the cars. Engineer Charles Cutler had both legs broken, and two other men were seriously hurt.

Will Not be Compelled to Join.

CHICAGO, April 20.—The superintendent of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad here says the threatened trouble between the company and its employees growing out of the life insurance and accident plan, has been amicably settled. No employee will be required to sign unless he is so inclined.

Work of a Hurricane.

PINCKNEY, Ill., April 20.—A hurricane passed through this village last night, unroofing many buildings and tearing up sidewalks and trees in a path about 100 feet wide. No one was severely injured.

WANT REDUCED RATES.

Cour d'Alene Mining Men to Take Action on the Tariff on Ores.

SPOKANE FALLS, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—Several prominent mining men operating in the South Fork region of the Cour d'Alenes have arrived here to attend a meeting to take action towards securing a reduction of freight rates on ore to the Montana smelters over the Northern Pacific. Among those expected are: S. G. Reed, of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan; Van B. Delashmut and Geo. B. McAuley, of the Granite, Stevensville, and other mines; James K. Clark, of the Big Bug and Sunset; Patrick Clark, of the Poorman, and Charles Sweeney, of the Emma and Last Chance. It is claimed that the Oregon Railroad & Navigation has made liberal concessions to the ore buyers, at Denver, who are thus enabled to offer inducements to the mine owners of the Cour d'Alenes to suspend operations and withhold the product of their mines from rival markets. It is understood a proposition to this effect is under serious consideration and will be agreed to unless the Northern Pacific reduces rates.

TERRITORIAL POLITICS.

Custer County Democratic Nominees—Billings Republican Primary.

MILES CITY, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—The democratic convention to-day nominated Dr. H. G. Reed and Hon. C. R. Middleton for delegates to the constitutional convention.

BILLINGS, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—At the republican primary held here to-day the following ticket was elected without opposition: Delegates—G. A. Griggs, H. S. Williston, A. L. Babcock, R. Goss, F. H. Foster, E. N. Harwood, O. F. Goddard, H. D. Arkwright, L. Whitney, H. M. Allen, S. H. Erwin, A. P. Hart, Alternates—U. E. Frieze, L. H. Fenske, S. B. Sawyer, F. S. Mills, C. E. Barney, A. J. Wilkinson, James Gogerty, A. Fraser, R. T. Allen, E. H. Becker, Wm. Clancey, S. Van Wagenen.

CONTRACTS LET.

F. J. Mills to Carry the Mail on the Benton-Lewistown Route.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Second Assistant Postmaster-General Whitefield to-day completed the letting of contracts for carrying the mails on miscellaneous star and steamboat routes under the advertisements of Feb. 1, 1889. The contracts cover about 1,400 routes in all parts of the country. The routes, names of contractors and compensation per annum of the most important are: From Benton, Mont., to Lewistown and return, F. J. Mills, \$2,440; from Buffalo, Wyo., to Sun Dance and return, E. B. Young, \$3,100; from Challis, Idaho, to Bonanza City and return, E. B. Young, \$3,475; from Idaho City, Idaho, to Graham and return, V. H. Pease, \$3,325; from Hallett, W. T., to Ruby and return, V. H. Pease, \$2,140; from Pioche, Nev., to Taylor and return, Napoleon Dupont, \$2,525; Ely, Nev., to Reville and return, V. H. Pease, \$2,382.

A CRUEL FATHER'S CRIME.

Frank Hancock Cuts the Throats of His Children and Suicide.

ADDISON, N. Y., April 20.—Frank Hancock, employed as fireman in a mill at Blue Run, Pa., was found dead this morning, having hanged himself in the bedroom of a shanty he occupied. In a bed in the same room lay the bodies of his four children, two with their throats cut and the other two stabbed to the heart. The oldest was 10 years and the youngest 4. Domestic trouble was undoubtedly the cause of the tragedy.

A Terrible Crime.

PARIS, Tex., April 20.—Deputy Marshal Fleming reports that while travelling in the Choctaw nation, fifty miles northeast of this city, in search of a band of criminals, he came upon the body of a man by the side of the road with his head cut entirely off, which was found sitting upright on the other side of the road with the face toward it. There were seven bullet holes in the breast and blood stains showed the crime had been committed only a few hours before.

Caused by Jealousy.

ATTICA, Ind., April 20.—Simon Houty, a well digger, entered his home this evening, and drawing a revolver fired three shots at his wife, killing her instantly. He then turned the weapon on himself and ended his life. The deed is supposed to have been caused by jealousy.

Gave the Money to His Wife.

NEW YORK, April 20.—Rumors were current in the shirt trade yesterday that Daniel H. Downs, the senior partner in the insolvent firm of Downs & Finch, the head of the fancy shirt business of the country, had gone to Canada. The books of the firm are being examined. It is said the head of the firm sold \$243,000 of accommodation paper since Sept. 1, 1888, to April 5, 1889, the greater part of which he gave to his wife. It is said he made deposits in various banks in the name of D. H. Downs, individually, and made checks against them payable to his wife, who drew the money. The transfer of the factory at Jamesburg, N. J., to Mrs. Downs was said to secure her as an indorser of the firm's paper to a large amount.

Jacksonville Healthy.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Sergeant-General Hamilton this morning received a telegram from the president of the state board of health of Florida saying the report of yellow fever in Jacksonville was absolutely false and that the general health of the city is decidedly good.

Hot Weather in the East.

PITTSBURG, April 20.—This was the hot test day of the year, the mercury reaching 82 degrees. Two men were overcome by the heat.

A GHASTLY FIND.

The Unearthing of a Human Skeleton in the North Country Causes Sensational Developments.

The Remains Believed to Be Those of a Man Named Valentine, Who Mysteriously Disappeared.

Suspicion Pointing Strongly to Steve Stoner, Who Fled the Country After Murdering an Employee.

GREAT FALLS, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—Counsellman Jerry Collins, who has returned from a journalistic trip to Kibbey, describes the clew which he and others found to a crime committed four years ago. Mr. Collins says that upon reaching Kibbey he learned from Judge Larkin that a human skeleton had been found a day or two before near the steep grade on the Kibbey and McCarthy road, about seven miles from the former place. The party proceeded to the place and found the skeleton near by and some clothing, which proved on investigation to have been a canvas coat with a flannel lining. They naturally sought a solution of the mysterious find and received one from Judge Larkin, an old timer and trustworthy man. He said he had lived in that section for nine years and knew of no case of mysterious disappearance, so that he had but one theory to offer. Some four years or so ago Steve Stoner, a Highwood ranchman, murdered a man he had employed simply to avoid paying him the wages due. When circumstances began to point to Stoner's guilt he fled the country and has not since been heard from. It was then remembered that a man named Valentine, who had worked for Stoner nearly two years, had suddenly disappeared sometime before. The belief then became general in the neighborhood that he, too, had been murdered by Stoner. Valentine could get no money from his employer and he decided to go to Barker and work a few months until Stoner was ready to pay him. Some one went with Valentine part of the way on this trip, and, as the story goes, that was the last ever seen of Valentine. Now, the place where the skeleton was discovered is on the direct route from Highwood to Barker, and it is not only possible but highly probable that the skeleton was that of Stoner's first victim. The place was fit for the commission of such a deed. No one then lived within six miles of the place and the murderer would have been protected from possible view by the clumps of scrubby pine surrounding. The loneliness of the place is well shown by the fact that the remains were not found until this late date. There is certainly fair reason to believe that Valentine, the first victim of the fiend Stoner, died on that bleak mountain side.

Billings to Montana.

FORT BENTON, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—A New York dispatch from W. F. Conrad says that the Northern Pacific has ordered a complete survey of the route between Billings and Benton, and that the prospects are favorable for building this route this season. It has been an open secret for some time that the Northern Pacific contemplated making connection with the Montana & Canada railroad at this point, and the above indicates the first step in this direction.

No action has yet been taken by either party in the matter of choosing delegates to the constitutional convention, but several names are mentioned in connection with the democratic representation. Choctaw county's representation will consist of two democrats and one republican.

Short in His Accounts.

SPOKANE FALLS, April 20.—[Special to the Independent.]—Corporal Oscar Nixon, of company A, Fourth infantry, committed suicide in the bath house at Fort Sherman (Cour d'Alene) this morning by blowing the top of his head off. He was secretary and treasurer of the literary association and could not account for the funds. This is the third soldier who has suicided at that post in the last three weeks.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

The Queen Dowager of Bavaria is dying. Le Paris says the liquidator of the Panama Canal company has sent an agent to contract a loan for the benefit of the company.

The solicitor of the treasury has rendered a decision that April 30, the day of the celebration of the Washington centennial is a national holiday and that banks may close their doors on that day, the same as on Sundays.

Secretary Rusk yesterday dispensed with the services of eighteen persons employed in the seed room in his department and will find it necessary, in order to bring the expenses of his department within the appropriation for the current year, to close that division entirely.

The annual spring letting of contracts for furnishing supplies for the Indian service will be begun in New York next Tuesday. Bids will be opened by Commander Oberly, Chief Wagon of the finance division, and Beckwith and Slater of the Indian bureau.

To Fight the Whiskey Trust.

CHICAGO, April 20.—George W. Kidd, a wholesale liquor dealer, of New York, and many times a millionaire, has started in to down the whiskey trust. He has just let a contract for a 5,000 barrel distillery at La Salle, Ill., as a beginner.